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**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s):	Rabbani et al.	)	
Serial No.:	08/978,637	)	Group Art Unit: 1635
Filed:	November 25, 1997	)	Examiner: Mary M. Schmidt
For:	COMPOSITION OF MATTER COMPRISING PRIMARY NUCLEIC ACID COMPONENT	)	

527 Madison Avenue (9<sup>th</sup> Floor)  
New York, New York 10022  
November 3, 2003

FILED BY FIRST CLASS MAIL  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT FEE TRANSMITTAL AND PETITION TO EXTEND TIME UNDER  
37 CFR 1.136(a)**

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment for the above-identified application  
in response to the Office Action mailed **May 1, 2003**

It is respectfully requested that the time for response to the Office Action  
dated **May 1, 2003** be extended for a period of

☐ 1 month at a fee of ☐ \$110 for a large entity or ☐ \$55 for a small entity  
☐ 2 months at a fee of ☐ \$210 for a large entity or ☐ \$420 for a small

entity

☒ 3 months at a fee of ☐ \$950 for a large entity or ☒ \$475 for a small  
entity from **August 1, 2003** to **Monday, November 3, 2003** The required fee for  
the extension is estimated to be **\$475**.

No additional claims fees are required.

Authorization is hereby made to charge the amount of \$475 to deposit  
account number 05-1135. No other fee is believed due in connection with the

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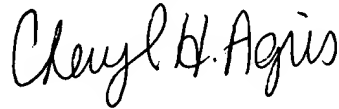
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extension request. If any other fee or fees are due, however, authorization hereby made to charge the amount of any other fee(s) to Deposit Account No. 05-1135 or to charge any overpayment thereto.

A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Cheryl H. Agris". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cheryl H. Agris, Reg. No. 34,086

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